

Is North High Varsity Improving?

Press-Herald SPORTS

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B-3

Pro Football's Biggest Hour

Who says they moved the Super Bowl out of the Los Angeles Coliseum?

Southern Californians will tell you today they merely moved the date up to December 17! A few million persons in the state of Maryland just might agree, too.

But even in a larger (and more accurate) perspective, the label on the package they will unwrap today at 1:05 at the Coliseum is impressive: "The biggest regular-season National Football League game ever."

The undefeated Baltimore Colts (11-0-2) and the once-beaten Rams (10-1-2) clash before a sellout crowd of more than 77,000 with the championship of the NFL's Coastal Division going to the winner.

Never, in the past three decades, has an unbeaten faced a once-beaten on the final day of the regular season with the title at stake. And never ever have the stakes been so high.

A tie Sunday would be enough to make the Colts champions of the Coastal and it also would make them the first NFL team in 25 years to go through a season unbeaten. The 1942 Bears (11-0) were the last team to turn the trick.

Yet, the Colts merely will finish second if they lose Sunday.

The 1967 Rams, for whom a tie would be the worst possible Christmas present, already are the winningest team in the history of the Los Angeles franchise. Never before has a Rams team won 10 games.

Yet, the Rams merely will finish second if they lose Sunday.

And, as Bill Veeck once said, "Second place in the World Series ain't much!"

In recent years this game might have been billed as the mighty offense of the Colts against the powerful defense of the Rams. But it's not quite that simple this year.

The Colts, as they have so often in the past, lead the NFL in points scored with 384, an average of just under 30 a game. However, the Colts also have allowed fewer points than any other NFL club this year, a miserly 164 or an average of just over 12 points a game.

The Rams, as they have so often in recent years, lead the NFL in defense against rushing and rate a close third behind the Colts and Packers in points allowed. Paralleling the surprising Baltimore defense is the rejuvenated Rams offense.

Not since 1958 have the Rams scored more than 100 points in a single season but the Rams of 1967 already have amassed 364 and rank second only to Baltimore in that department this year.

The remarkable closeness of the two teams is reflected not only in their relative won-lost records, but in the statistics of their first meeting, a 24-24 thriller in Baltimore on Oct. 15.

That day the Colts managed 20 first downs to 19 for the Rams; the Rams totaled 410 net yards to 368 for the Colts.

Roman Gabriel, who again will challenge QB-king Johnny Unitas, netted 270 yards against the Colts in October. Unitas netted 270 against the Rams. Unitas had two TD passes and one interception; so did Gabriel. Each QB was dumped three times by the opposing defense.

★ ★ ★

Dick Bass is within 100 yards of becoming the 11th player in National Football League history to reach a career mark of 5,000 yards or better in rushing. But in the new era of Ram togetherness and the final determined drive toward a division championship, he was not even aware of it.

Ahead of Bass in the all-time rushing list are Jim Brown, Joe Perry, Jim Taylor, John Henry Johnson, Steve Van Buren, Rick Casares, Don Perkins, Hugh McElhenny, Lenny Moore and Ollie Matson.

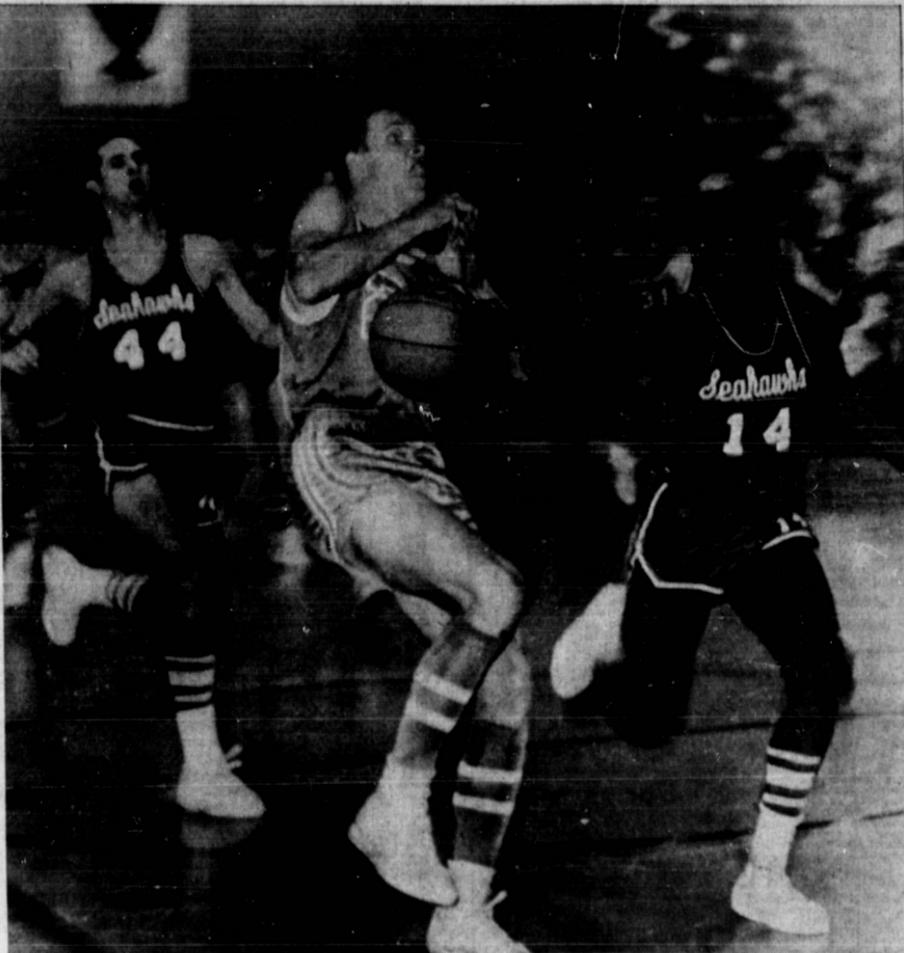
That's pretty exalted company for any running back, but Bass is more thrilled these days over his emergence as a "complete" player.

"Most other years I was primarily a runner. Last season we used 448 running plays and I carried the ball 248 times. This year I'm blocking a lot more, as well as running and catching passes. In some games I've blocked on two out of three plays. I feel I'm doing the Rams more good as an all-around player than just as a runner. It keeps our attack more diversified, prevents the other team from keying on just one man. We have much better balance this year.

"I really enjoy blocking and I've been lucky enough several times to apply the key block that gave us a touchdown."

Bass blocking targets are usually the linebackers big, fast and tough defenders who outweigh him from 25 to 40 pounds. How does he offset this disparity in weight?

"Mostly by technique. I try to get to the linebacker before he can get his steam up. If I do, I can block him from an upright position. If he's coming in at full speed I have to hit him low, cut him off at the legs. No matter how big a man is, his legs are his weak spot. If you upset him, you've got him.



DIZZY SPELL . . . In last week's Pacific Shores championship basketball game between North High and Redondo, Dan Hansen of North had a layup shot batted out of bounds by Redondo's Willie Glen (14).

Following up on the ball was Bruce Gerhardt (44) of the Seahawks. North won the game, 56-44, and has gone on to win eight in a row. North played Ventura last night for the championship of Beverly Hills.

Saxons Clobber 3 in Basketball

The eighth straight victim of North High's basketball height and scoring ability Friday night was Morningside. The Saxons thumped the Monarchs, 83-54, in the semi-finals of the Beverly Hills Tournament. Last night's championship opponents were North and Ventura.

Ventura got to the finals by defeating host Beverly Hills, 73-58. Ventura also beat Arcadia, 90-80, and Santa Monica, 69-46, at the swimming.

Prior to Morningside, North High clubbed El Monte, 86-51, and Montebello, 85-45.

The way the Saxons manhandled Morningside by 29 points was alarming. The Monarchs beat rough Redondo the night before, 76-64, and it was Redondo which resisted North in the Pacific Shores Tournament, 56-44.

The 40-point win over Montebello came against a team that edged Mira Costa, 64-57. And it was also in the Shores tournament that Costa played stubborn against North before falling, 76-58.

Beverly Hills, fifth place winner in the Pacific Shores tournament, battled Morningside last night for third place in its own tourney.

For fifth place at Beverly Hills, Redondo battled Arcadia and consolation finalists were Buena and Culver City.

North crushed Morningside after a 13-10 first quarter. Bill Taylor had 24 points for the winners.

Morningside played without all-league guard Dave Penso, who injured his ankle.

The Saxons outscored Montebello, 20-4, in the first quarter on their way to convincing victory. The game was turned into a rout in the third period when North scored 26 points.

Dan Hansen scored 20 points to lead the Saxons. Nine second stringers got into the scoring column.

Against El Monte, North broke loose with 32 points in the first quarter for a 20-point lead. Coach Skip Enger of North also cleared his bench in this outing. Jim Nielson had 20 points.

North now has a break in the schedule until Dec. 26 when six potent teams invade the campus for the North Christmas Tournament. The Saxons will also be in the Compton Tournament Jan. 2-6.

(North 83) Morningside (54)
Hansen (24) F. Ryones (8)
Taylor (24) F. Ingram (5)
Nielson (9) C. Dannaker (14)
Jones (17) G. Carl (9)
Anderson (12) G. Templeman (14)
North 83 22 19 28-43
Morningside 54 12 15 15-34
North scoring subs: West (2), Wisniewski (6), Frasquillo (5).
Morningside scoring subs: Bettin-
ger (2), Foster (7), Roberts (2),
Tytthall (2), Goff (2).

(North 85) Montebello (48)
Nielson (13) F. Thompson (7)
Hansen (20) F. Terry (15)
Taylor (15) C. Kasarian (2)
Jones (3) G. Robledo (2)
Anderson (13) G. Garbino (15)
Rector (14) Rector (14)
Barron (9) Barron (9)
Boyer (15) G. Brooks (10)
Aviation 85 23 15 17-74
South 48 10 9 16 23-58
Aviation scoring subs: Doorbaugh
(4), Montague (3), Orr (1).
South scoring subs: Wang (6),
Shuler (5), Simon (2), Kier (2).

(North 88) El Monte (51)
Nielson (20) F. Tuthil (7)
Hansen (5) F. M. Ferguson (10)
Anderson (7) C. J. Ferguson (13)
Jones (8) G. Signorino (2)
Anderson (5) G. Pina (4)
North 88 22 14 28 18-66
El Monte 51 12 14 13 9-51
North scoring subs: Cronin (8),
West (9), Wisniewski (6), T. Smith
(2), Keidrick (1), Horgan (1).
El Monte scoring subs: Lynn (5),
Anderson (15), Goudreau (2), Mur-
ray (2), Scott (1).

Beverly Results

FIRST ROUND
North 86, El Monte 51.
Montebello 64, Mira Costa 57.
Redondo 57, Torrance 48.
Morningside 76, Buena 64.
Arcadia 66, Beverly Hills (42) 46.
Ventura 69, Santa Monica 46.
Bellflower 69, Culver City 64.
Beverly Hills 75, Alhambra 43.

SECOND ROUND (Championship Bracket)
North 85, Montebello 45.
Morningside 76, Redondo 64.
Ventura 90, Arcadia 50.
Beverly Hills 69, Bellflower 66.
(Consolation Bracket)
Mira Costa 55, El Monte 54.
Buena 67, Torrance 64.
Culver City 72, Alhambra 33.
Santa Monica 78, Beverly Hills 76-64.

THIRD ROUND (Championship Bracket)
North 82, Morningside 54.
Ventura 73, Beverly Hills 58.
(Fifth Place)
Redondo 62, Montebello 54.
Arcadia 70, Bellflower 66.
(Consolation)
Buena 67, Mira Costa 51.
Culver City 67, Santa Monica 47.

Torrance Loses Pair at Beverly

The Torrance Tartars dropped two basketball tournament games in the Beverly Hills Tournament and were eliminated Thursday.

Torrance lost in the first round Wednesday to Redondo, 57-43, and went down to defeat against Buena of Ventura in the second round, 67-64.

Coach Will Boerger started his second unit against Buena and the team fell behind, 21-14, at the first quarter mark.

Torrance regained a 34-31 halftime lead and broke even at the end of the third quarter.

Steve Jasper scored 21 points in the loss. Jasper had six points in losing to Redondo. Anthony Chaffins had 22 points for the winners.

Redondo was upset in the second round by Morningside, 76-64.

Buena (67) Torrance (64)
Campbell (8) F. Souza (9)
Bottomly (13) F. Smoot (2)
Whitcomb (9) C. Stuckrad (6)
Clark (12) G. Jasper (2)
Attebery (21) G. Waddell (9)
Buena 67 20 19 17-57
Torrance 64 20 18 14-64
Buena scoring sub: Hallway (4).
Torrance scoring subs: S. Jasper
(21), Fox (2), Baker (5), Goetsch
(10), Floyd (6), Hase (4).

Redondo (57) Torrance (48)
Chaffins (22) F. S. Jasper (9)
Gerhardt (2) F. Souza (9)
Box (0) C. Baker (5)
Odd (11) G. Floyd (11)
Springer (8) G. Hase (9)
Redondo 57 14 16 14-57
Torrance 48 7 9 15-43
Redondo scoring subs: Shaw (8),
Floyd (6), Glen (2), Dickson (1).
Torrance scoring subs: Stuckrad
(3), Smoot (3), Goetsch (4),
Fox (2).

South Loses To Aviation In Tourney

After South defeated Fermin Lasuen, 65-58, in the first round of the Hawthorne Basketball Tournament, the Spartans were beaten by Aviation High in the second round, 74-58.

Paul Westphal scored 26 points against South. The Falcons ran up a 40-19 half time advantage and South could not overcome it.

Jim Owens, who scored 17 points in the victory over Fermin Lasuen, had only a free throw against Aviation.

Competing in the fifth bracket South lost to Long Beach Jordan, 86-83, in spite of Owens' 30 points.

(South 65) Lasuen (58)
Barron (4) F. Howett (27)
Brooks (14) F. Barker (2)
Owens (17) C. Amalfitano (3)
Peterson (9) G. Bastino (0)
Rector (16) G. Peterson (21)
Mistotzky (2).
South scoring subs: Wang (3),
Shuler (5), Simon (2), Kier (2).

Bishop Edges Loyola, 49-48

Bishop Montgomery High held Loyola to a standstill in the fourth quarter to win a 49-48 non-league basketball game Tuesday at Loyola.

(Bishop 49) Loyola (48)
Jamison (7) F. Doherty (6)
Wiggins (17) F. Scherbat (7)
Patterson (8) C. O'Mara (13)
Collins (14) G. Ragaglia (4)
Roach (5) G. Samaniego (0)
Montgomery . . . 49 15 13 13-49
Loyola 48 9 16 12-48
Montgomery scoring subs: none.
Loyola scoring subs: Heiserman
(11), Horgan (2).

Santa Anita Park Opens on Dec. 26

Santa Anita Park, beautiful winter showplace of Thoroughbred racing in America, commences its greatest season in history Tuesday, Dec. 26, presenting 75 days of racing through Saturday, April 6, for a record \$5,400,000 in purses.

Forty-five stakes events will be renewed during the expanded meeting at the Arcadio oval, the added money program to feature five hundred granders — the Charles H. Strub Stakes, Santa Anita Derby, San Juan Capistrano, Santa Anita Handicap and new invitation Santa Margarita Handicap for fillies and mares.

Attracted by approximately \$1,725,000 which will be distributed in stakes alone, the Santa Anita meeting will spotlight the nation's most famous Thoroughbreds and jockeys.

Mrs. Edith W. Bancroft's brilliant Damascus, unanimous selection as "Horse of the Year" in 1967, will be on hand in an attempt to further enhance an already glittering record. The son of Sword Dancer established a mark for most money won in a single year in '67 by earning \$817,941 with victories in such classics as the Preakness and Belmont Stakes, Jockey Club Gold Cup and Woodward Stakes.

Other well-known campaigners in action at Santa Anita will be Llangollen Farm's Pretense, winner of the Santa Anita Handicap a year ago; Mrs. Ethel D. Jacobs' Straight Deal, top filly or mare for 1967; Frank McMahon's Baffle, William Haggin Perry's Gamely and many more runners of note.

Bill Shoemaker, perennial riding champion at Santa Anita, will head the jockey colony again as he seeks his 18th consecutive title. Among his competitors for the crown will be Angel Cordero, sensation from the East Coast who will be making his California debut; Manuel Ycaza, Walter Blum, Bill Hartack, Alvaro Pineda, Laffit Pincay, Jerry Lambert, Eddie Belmonte, Bill Mahorney, Don Pierce and many other high-ranking riders.

Post-time for the first race will be 12:30 p.m.

Warriors Drop Two After Win

West High stunned Long Beach Poly with a 71-68 loss in the Hawthorne Basketball Tournament Wednesday, but since then the Warriors have lost to Rolling Hills, 70-61, and Hawthorne, 68-57.

Rolling Hills and Aviation reached the championship game last night by winning three games each. Paul Westphal scored 38 points for Aviation in an 87-53 win over Leuzinger.

Rolling Hills felled Downey, 54-38, in the semis. Hawthorne outscored West in each of the first three quarters in their fifth place bracket game.

(West 57) Hawthorne (68)
Smalley (3) F. Crowell (17)
Kolodziejczak (7) F. Engle (8)
Moberly (3) G. Draeger (12)
Wood (1) C. Lee (3)
Blair (15) G. Pressburg (6)
West Torrance . . . 57 18 21 16-68
Hawthorne scoring subs: Volk
(2), Ganning (4), Wilson (5).
West scoring subs: Fisher (5), Sand-
wich (2), Guest (3).

(West 71) Poly (68)
Smalley (6) F. Banks (6)
Sandwich (15) F. Hanson (4)
Kidd-Jezak (10) C. Erickson (9)
Moberly (20) G. Stoll (4)
Neal (26) G. Rothwell (12)
West 71 15 15 15-71
Poly 68 1-3 19 15-68
West scoring subs: Blair (15),
Fisher (4).
Poly scoring subs: Tillman (17),
Watkins (8), Coon (1).

(West 61) Rolling Hills (70)
Smalley (10) F. Ryerson (14)
Kobler (12) F. Hanson (4)
Kidd-Jezak (9) C. Arenstein (12)
Blair (18) G. Schiff (12)
Rothwell (4) G. Sullivan (12)
Rolling Hills . . . 61 15 24 15-70
West 70 15 12 22-61
Rolling Hills scoring subs: O'Dell
(3), Krue (3), Bradford (3).
West scoring subs: Fischer (12),
Guest (2), Blackburn (1), Parton (1).

(North 83) Morningside (54)
Hansen (24) F. Ryones (8)
Taylor (24) F. Ingram (5)
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West (9), Wisniewski (6), T. Smith
(2), Keidrick (1), Horgan (1).
El Monte scoring subs: Lynn (5),
Anderson (15), Goudreau (2), Mur-
ray (2), Scott (1).

Montgomery Wins Game In Tourney

Bishop Montgomery defeated St. Bernard's, 72-49, in the St. Monica's Tournament Friday night. The Knights were scheduled to meet Crespi for the title last night.

Crespi beat host St. Monica, 55-40.

Greg Collins scored 20 points for Bishop.

(Montgomery 72) St. Bernard's (49)
Jamison (10) F. Baine (9)
Wiggins (15) F. Staw (16)
Patterson (12) C. Laurie (15)
Collins (20) G. Cottrell (2)
Roach (9) G. Hays (3)
Montgomery 72 20 20 14-72
St. Bernard 49 11 7 10 21-49
Montgomery scoring subs: White
(2), Brown (2), Bernard's scoring
subs: Popp (2), Brown (2).

LA SERNA HI, ANAHEIM WIN CIF FOOTBALL

Anaheim won the CIF "AAAA" football championship Friday night at the Big A, scoring a 27-6 win over unbeaten Santa Ana. When the pair met in the Sunset League at the start of the season, Santa Ana pulled off a 28-0 victory.

Since then, a sophomore, 16-year-old George Fraser, has become Anaheim quarterback and his team has won nine games in a row.

Anaheim finished with a 12-1 record as Tom Fitzpatrick ran 2 yards for a pair of touchdowns and Eric James went 34.

Fraser, who dazzled the Saints with his ball handling and rollouts, had a 5-yard touchdown pass.

Santa Ana's only touchdown was in the fourth quarter.

In the playoffs Anaheim beat El Rancho, the defending champion, 28-14, and Santa Barbara, 42-7.

In the 3-A playoffs, LaSerna beat Temple City, 33-7. LaSerna had a 27-0 lead against the former unbeaten No. 1 ranked Temple City eleven.

FOR HEALTH ON WHEELS USE CHRISTMAS SEALS!

EYE ON THE BALL . . . Ram defensive tackle Merlin Olson, named sports chairman for the 1967 Christmas Seal Campaign, rubs genie lamp for luck as women's chairman, Barbara Eden, gets set to pass seal-decorated ball at \$1 million target. Funds raised by campaign of Tuberculosis and Health Association of Los Angeles County will fight TB, emphysema and air pollution.